Mr. P. J. George *(Joint Secretary to Government).*—He was practically induced to take up more shops.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Anthikad).*—May I know whether the Government induced him?

Mr. P. J. George *(Joint Secretary to Government).*—He was persuaded to take it up.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Anthikad).*—Who was the person who persuaded him?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Pallippuram).*—Does it indicate that there is less of drink?

Secret Police Force in the State.

250. Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether they are maintaining a Secret Police Force in the State;

(2) if the answer is in the affirmative (a) their strength and (b) the amount spent under this head per year?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police).*—

(1) No.

(2) No answer is necessary.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—Is it a fact, Sir, that the Government is asking the ordinary Police to collect confidential information about the movements and activities of persons engaged in political work and Harijan uplift?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police).*—There is no such instance.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—Does that work fall within the ordinary duties of a Police officer?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police).*—I don't know what is exactly meant by it.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—The Hon'ble Member was asking whether Police officers are

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asked to collect information regarding the movements of political workers as well as workers in Harijan cause. The answer has been 'No'. I seek to enquire whether that work falls within the legitimate duties of a Police officer.

Mr. President.—Even if such instructions are given to the Police they cannot be divulged. It is not possible to publish instructions given to Police officers.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—We are not asking for the particular facts collected by these officers. But we want to know whether they are actually shadowing respectable people to know and watch their movements as they were doing some months back. That is the gist of my question.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Pallippuram).*—What is the objection? Let them enquire.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—We want to know whether they enquire.

Mr. President.—It is the duty of the Police to watch everybody's movements for the safety of the persons concerned.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Urakam).*—It is no doubt their duty. But whether they are taking particular interest about a particular set of persons is what we want to know.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi).*—Do the Police attend ordinary public meetings?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police).*—It is our duty to see that law and order are maintained.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi).*—The other day there was a meeting of the Rikshawallas and the Police attended that meeting.

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police).*—Wherever there is a big gathering it is the duty of the Police to attend.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Anthikad).*—May I know, Sir, what is meant by 'Secret Police'?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police).*—We are not maintaining any secret police so far as I am aware.

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